

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IMPROVED ENGINE POSITION SENSING

Abstract

A method is provided for controlling an engine in a vehicle to facilitate determination of engine position sensor correction factors. The vehicle includes a motor, which is operatively connected to the engine, a sensor configured to detect engine position, and a controller, which is in communication with the engine, the sensor and the motor. It is determined when an engine shutdown is requested, for example, when the controller commands the vehicle to be powered by the motor. It is next determined whether engine position sensor correction factors are known. If they are, the engine control routine is stopped. If the correction factors are not known, fuel to the engine is discontinued, and the motor is employed to spin the engine at an approximately constant speed. The engine position sensor correction factors can then be determined while the engine is rotating in a defueled state.